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## HKUST Signs Communications Research Agreement

The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology (HKUST) today (30 September 2004) entered into a research collaboration agreement in the field of high-tech communications with the University of Electronic Science and Technology of China (UESTC), and the Nanyang Technological University (NTU) of Singapore.

The agreement establishes a variety of spheres in which the three institutions will cooperate, including research, applications for government funding, student exchange at the postgraduate level, and the hosting of seminars. Under its terms, the partners also hope to seek funding from the 863 Program - China's national high-technology research and development funding scheme - for a mature joint-project.

It is envisaged that the research collaborations conducted by the three institutions will lie in their combined areas of expertise such as the Beyond Third Generation (B3G) and Ultra Wideband (UWB) communications technologies.

The signatories to the agreement are HKUST's Prof Khaled Ben Letaief, Head of the Department of Electrical and Electronic Engineering, Prof Shaoqian Li, the Director of the National Communications Laboratory at UESTC, and Prof Er Meng Hwa, the Deputy President and Dean of the School of Electrical and Electronic Engineering at NTU.

Commenting on the research collaboration agreement, Prof Ben Letaief said: "HKUST has proven itself a leader in wireless communications with the standard of its fundamental research; UESTC has set fine standards in the development of B3G technology; while NTU has considerable experience in both areas. This collaboration will allow the three institutions to compliment one another, and through it we will each become even stronger."

At a functional level, the collaboration will be conducted between HKUST's Department of Electrical and Electronic Engineering, UESTC's National Communications Laboratory, and NTU's Positioning and Wireless Technology Centre.

